

PCT Rule 13.2, they do not relate to the same or corresponding special technical features. The reasons given for this alleged failure of meeting the requirements of the aforementioned PCT rules include the Examiner's consideration that the method can be used in any system, including a system that does not need to have a hand-held configuration and/or manual operation. The Examiner states that the system can be automatically operable.

With respect to the Examiner's consideration that the method as defined in the claims is capable of being used in any system, including one which does not require a hand-held configuration, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the method claims 19 - 25. Claims 19, 20, 23 and 25 are independent. Claim 19 refers to the method as including a step of using a programming means comprising a hand-held configuration. Independent claim 20 refers to configuring a programming means comprising a hand-held configuration. Claim 23 refers to the method as comprising the use of a hand-held and manually operable wand. Similarly, method claim 25 refers to a step comprising the use of a hand-held and manually operable wand. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the method claims appear to define steps involving the use of a hand-held apparatus. Further, with respect to the independent claims within claims 19 - 25, it appears to the Applicants that the term "manually operable" is included within these independent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the inventions identified by the Group I claims (consisting of claims 1 - 18) and the Group II claims (consisting of claims 19 - 25) relate to a single general inventive concept.


In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction and election requirements, notwithstanding that Applicants have elected prosecution

of Group I, consisting of claims 1 - 18. Should any questions arise in connection with the above, please contact Thomas L. Lockhart at the telephone number of 616/336-6000.

Respectfully submitted,

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